Fellowship in Prayer

"For a world united in prayer"

We pray to Thee, O God,
For this wide world of ours,
With all its sin and need,
And all its clashing pow'rs.

Bring healing for its pain
Of body, mind, and soul;
O'erwhelm its selfish wills;
By Thy strong love control.

Give courage to each one
Who strives for truth and right;
For human strength will fail:
We need Thy Spirit's might.

Help all in any land
Who've missed what Thou canst give;
Transform the stricken hearts,
That, dying, they may live. Selected.

Volume III February 1952 Number 1

FELLOWSHIP IN PRAYER
(Incorporated)
22 East 29th Street
New York 16, N. Y.

Volume III February 1952 Number 1

ANOTHER YEAR - ANOTHER BEGINNING

Last month another year was launched. As we grow older, years somehow seem to shorten. The more mature we get, the more we realize that time is only relative. HOW we live means more than HOW LONG we live.
So, having entered another year let us live it day by day!

Whatever the past may hold--whatever memories it may bring to us, whatever teaching power it may possess--it is the past. We cannot retrace our steps. We cannot return to our yesterdays. The only course is to start anew, and what we do today will make our life for tomorrow.

It is a time to take inventory--to examine one's successes and failures, determining not to repeat the latter, and then step out confidently into the untouched months in which to make another beginning.

After all, it is a wonderful world, and life is worthwhile, if we live and work in partnership with its Creator for its improvement.

If everyone would determine to replace one evil tendency with a move in the right direction, the world would slowly be improved. As every such move would have Divine Power behind it, its upward movements would soon exceed the destructive ones--for with God all things are possible.

"Oh, bright New Year! we hail thee now,
Thy months are full of promise vast;
Sweet hope is stamped upon thy brow;
May wrong be buried with the past!
May peace and plenty both abound,
May all mankind these blessings know;
And ages hence, the wide world round,
Men praise the gifts thou shalt bestow!"

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GRATITUDE A HEALING POWER

By Grenville Kleiser

A GRATEFUL HEART IS A LOVING HEART. A spirit of gratitude radiates good will to everyone. An appreciative and receptive mind is a progressive mind.

Lord God of hosts, we tender thanks
For all Thy mercies sure;
Thy tender love environs us,
And will through life endure.

Teach us to know Thy perfect will
And truly humble be;
May we in gladness praise Thy name
Through all eternity.

Lord God of hosts, we offer thanks
And call upon Thy name;
A psalm of praise to Thee we sing,
Thy wondrous love proclaim.

BE GRATEFUL FOR THE JOY OF LIFE. Be glad for the privilege of work. Be thankful for the opportunity to give and serve. Good work is the great character-builder, the sweetener of life, the maker of destiny. Let the spirit of your work be right, and whether your task be great or small you will then have the satisfaction of knowing it is worth while. Let each day witness to your generous giving, with no expectation of return.

Give simply and intelligently. Do not wait for great occasions on which to render special service, but remember that small giving may be true and helpful giving. Considering that God has given so much to you, you cannot possibly give too much to others. You can practice all the great virtues in small as well as in large things.

LOOK ALWAYS FOR THE PLEASANT, THE BEAUTIFUL, AND THE

CONSTRUCTIVE. Life is too precious to be frittered away on useless, negative, depressing things. Cultivate a spirit of appreciation and gratitude. Seek the best in everything. Be thankful for the privilege of life. Think highly of those about you, and give them the benefit and encouragement of your most generous thoughts.

Your mental habits have a vital influence in shaping the character and productiveness of your daily work. Confidence and belief in your own ability to achieve will speed your progress. Your mind is a wonderful workship in which you plan, systemize, devise, invent, and picture ideas which are subsequently to be expressed in material form.

* * * * *

THE BEST MEDICINE for discontent and discouragement is useful occupation. You are in the world to make something of yourself, to develop your powers and abilities for worthy use, to render substantial service to your fellow men. A well-planned life has no room nor inclination for useless worry and dissatisfaction. Every minute of the day is significant to the earnest and ambitious worker.

Life is rich with opportunity, and you elect for yourself every morning whether the day will be fruitful of results or not. Plan a program of practical usefulness for each day, fill up the hours with interesting work, resolve to do constantly better, and you will find your life steadily expanding into beauty and joyousness.

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P R A Y E R: Dear God, and Father of us all, as we have entered another year, may we go forward with renewed Faith and Hope, facing courageously and prayerfully our manifold opportunities for service, conscious at all times of Thy power and presence with us; and being ever grateful for the joy of life. Amen.

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M E R C Y

Articles on TRUTH, HONESTY and JUSTICE have appeared previously in this publication establishing them to be basic attributes in any worthwhile religion. Mercy, likewise of universal religious acceptance, is the grace which adorns religion. It is the fruit of religious experience. He who has it and uses it, comes nearest to being godlike. He who has it not, bars the way to the highest exercise of spirituality.

Every religious faith fundamentally is imbued with the quality of mercy. Even the American Indian, when unprovoked by the invader, was merciful to a great extent. Mohammed certainly showed mercy toward his persecutors to a remarkable degree. The teachings of Jesus are replete with mercy and compassion. Down to His dying breath, His life exemplified mercy.

There once was a missionary to China who returned to the United States for health reasons, but carried on in a missionary enterprise until his death. Throughout his career, the main motive of his life seemed to be MERCY. "Be compassionate." "Have some compassion." "Let us show compassion." These were frequent expressions of his. And so, the theme at the necrological services, after his death, was COMPASSION. To many people, he was the epitome of mercy and compassion.

The trouble nowadays is that too few people are merciful. From high political circles down to most obscure people, instances are on file where mercy seems unknown. Frequently those lacking this grace are vindictive, and develop characteristics unreconcilable with any religion. And yet, these same people continue to hold public office or religious positions of influence. Psychologists tell us that often the "feel" of power by those in authority completely smothers the quality of mercy, - be it a religious leader or a ward politician.

The supreme consummation of mercy is in God, Himself. Mohammed cites God as "Most Merciful." Abdu'l-Baha, after listing many of the trials of mankind, addresses his prayer to "the Merciful One;" and concludes with, "Thou art

the Merciful of the Most Merciful." Over and over, again and again, prophets and seers of the Old Testament proclaim the mercy of God. And St. Paul called God the "Father of Mercy." From this high altitude, let us take an instance of what man can do.

In the same year that Queen Isabella pledged her jewels for Columbus to seek the Western World, she signed the decree expelling from Spain all who would not renounce the Mohammedan religion.

Dr. Samuel Johnson once said, "I am willing to love all mankind except an American."

For his great discoveries in science, Roger Bacon was sentenced to imprisonment for ten years.

On the other hand, early in the last century, when Elizabeth Fry was working among the convicts in English prisons, a lady companion, noting that she was greeted as a familiar friend by the wretched inmates of the women's cells in Newgate, asked of what crimes these women had been convicted. "I do not know," replied Mrs. Fry, "I have never asked them. We all have come short."

"For not with swords, loud clashing,
Nor roll of stirring drums,
But deeds of love and mercy,
The heavenly kingdom comes."

Said Shakespeare, "I will chide no heathen in the world, but myself, against whom I know the most faults."

It was also Shakespeare who penned the most oft quoted verse on mercy, which serves here as an appropriate closing thought--

"The quality of mercy is not strain'd;
It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven
Upon the place beneath; it is twice bless'd;
It blesseth him that gives, and him that takes;
'Tis mightiest in the mightiest; it becomes
The throned monarch better than his crown."

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P E A C E ?

Inquiries have been made as to why we do not feature peace in FELLOWSHIP IN PRAYER. In answer we have written many letters, but now we feel it imperative that we state some of the reasons for our silence.

Primarily, we never thought of peace as anything else but the by-product of a spiritual renaissance. We never could see peace to be possible without the conditions of peace being met. And those conditions are found in the heart of every individual and in the heart of a nation. Peace is not possible where hate exists, or jealousy, or intolerance, or dishonesty. No peace treaty written will be of lasting value which does not take into consideration these factors. True peace does not maintain where people are subjugated by force of arms.

Again, we would not have had the temerity in 1949 to start a peace organization when more than fifty such corporations already existed. But so insidious are the motives of some of these organizations that the U. S. Treasury Department is extremely cautious in granting tax exemption. Then again, many peace organizations do not recognize the basic elements of peace. In 1949, there were over 700 socities and lodges (now more than 3,000) devoting a minute a day in prayer for peace. Such an attitude cannot help but do some good, but again, the fundamentals of peace are not understood, and how can prayers thus said carry weight?

It brings to mind the incident where a Filipino student made application for one term of violin study provided the proficiency of a talented fellow student was guaranteed. He wanted in a term of a few weeks what the other had worked for, for over twenty years.

A friend has written most cogently upon this subject and we quote the following:

> "This quality, (peace) lovely as it is, is an effect, not a cause. We are asking for peace (which is itself a sort of pardon) when we do not deserve it. To ask for peace when you do nothing to deserve it is as immoral as requesting free money. And thus the resultant peace would be correspondingly immoral. All sublime things, as I see it, can only be deserved."

Again, Ex-President Hoover has stated:

"You cannot make peace with documents;
Peace must be made in the hearts of men."

Yes, a price must be paid for peace. That is one reason we sought the instalment printing of "Thelemic Prayer" so well written by Rev. Roy Wallace Thomas. It likewise actuated our request of Dr. Dwight W. Edwards to write on "The Way to Peace" in our last August number.

The foregoing does not bar prayers for peace when conditioned that "we be made worthy of peace through the indwelling of righteousness within our own hearts," or some similar statement.

But let us not fail individually, or collectively to see clearly our spiritual responsibility, while precious life blood is being shed on the field of battle. For nigh on to fifty years now, we have been building a war psychology which, today, has pretty much made prosperity dependent upon war or preparation for war. It goes deeper in the absolute control of wealth for the purpose of power. It has so clogged the moral fibre of our natures that we are unable to analyze what is going on about us. Now, it needs more than a "return to religion." It means a direct attack upon the forces which would continue--yes, even develop the present-day psychology on war. It means the development of spiritual forces which will make impossible the control of society by an infinitesimal per cent of the population.

Thus, war must be controlled. We talk with sanctimonious piety about saving men's souls and permit thousands to be killed on the field of battle. The record is too gory to permit mankind any solace in progress toward unity and brotherhood.

We have a chart prepared by Mr. Jackson Martindell, President of American Institute of Management, and - with his permission - give the following summary of data covering the past one thousand years:

The globe was divided into 12 sectors and the aggregate number of years considered was 9130. However, reliable data was not available for 1605 years, leaving a balance of 7525 for the basic study. After carefully sifting all

available information, it was found that there was an aggregate of 6025 years of war as against exactly 1500 years of peace. One of the most significant revelations is the fact that during the past millenium the world was not free of war at any time. Somewhere there were always men fighting each other.

Mr. Martindell's own conclusions from the lesson of the chart are:

(a) The nation which constantly seeks war eventually perishes. ("They that take the sword, shall perish with the sword.")

(b) Those nations not prepared for war perish.

(c) CONCLUSION: Be prepared for war, but do not seek it.

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P R A Y E R

E T E R N A L S P I R I T, whose presence is like a calm steady star, shining in our darkened days,
To Thee we turn again with a great longing and a great hope
That, in all our uncertainty, we may find Thy Light and, in the midst of crowded action, may find Thy Peace.

Deliver us from the shallow thinking and the unsure haste, to which we are peculiarly tempted in time of strain.
Make our purpose so profound that all our powers may be as the flowing of great water, too strong to be turned aside.
When opportunity opens, may we move forward with the sureness of the river that finds its destined channel to the sea.

--By Theodore C. Hume.

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T O D A Y

By Calmer Newland

Today is the day you were waiting for yesterday.

Today is yesterday's tomorrow that has arrived with the duties we postponed until tomorrow. We had good intentions for the things we were going to do tomorrow. But today is the tomorrow we were waiting for when we could accomplish so much. Let's start today on work piled up blocking our progress! We had planned to visit a sick friend; speak an encouraging word to someone in distress; apologize for something said that would have been better left unsaid; or perhaps we intended to do something about a bad habit.

Today is the most important day in our life! We can start, continue or finish any worthwhile inspired activity. When the thought comes to you to put off until tomorrow, ask yourself--WHY? If something is worth doing, start doing it today! We know that definite satisfaction is realized from what is done today which is not experienced if it is put off until tomorrow.

Every day is the birthday of a new day. Look upward at the beginning of the day and start it with a morning prayer or some scripture verse which will elevate your mind and impel you to go forward with new confidence and power. I have tried it and it has proved a reliable lift throughout the day. Try it! It is really surprising how much it will help you. Forget past regrets, but accept God's correction from whatever source it may come and do today what you wish you had done yesterday.

We have all had numerous good intentions such as New Year's Resolutions. Perhaps we started, but failed. Perhaps we failed because we did not reenforce our efforts with a Higher Power. We need a Greater Power than our own and it is available to each one of us to guarantee the desired results. So, avail yourself of Divine Aid to accomplish the things you failed at yesterday.

Today is here and you can make a new start. But remember to start today, NOT tomorrow.

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P R A Y E R

The following prayer was received with a Christmas and New Year's Greeting from Dr. H. H. Kung, and is reproduced in this publication by the sympathetic permission of Dr. Kung.

This prayer should be used widely by all people, and especially those interested in China.

WE PRAY for China, asking God's mercy for the innocent and suffering people, and to grant Divine Guidance to the Nationalist Government for the realization and rectification of past mistakes, and to give them the wisdom and strength to save the people of China from enslavement.

WE ASK God's mercy for those who have wronged China and caused the enslavement of her people, and for those who are influenced by the advocates of falsehood and ungodly ways. We pray that God's infinite wisdom may make them realize their folly which can bring destruction to themselves and to the entire world, and to correct their wrongful ways.

WE PRAY earnestly for the United Nations. May it be faithful to the noble ideals for which it was founded, and not compromise with evil, but let all nations take their full responsibility in the attainment of peace and justice throughout the entire world.

WE PRAY for the United States of America, the land of liberty and freedom. May she have the wisdom and strength to lead the world in support of right against wrong.

FOR ALL MANKIND in these troubled times, we pray for God's mercy and blessing. May this year be a year of peace, justice and restoration of human rights with understanding and cooperation among all peoples of the world.

--By Dr. H. H. Kung

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PORTRAIT OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN

Readers will recall mention in the February 1951 issue about the surpassingly fine portrait of Abraham Lincoln done by Helen Dudley Young.

Arrangements have been made with Mrs. Young whereby Fellowship in Prayer shares in the proceeds of all sales through this publication.

The portrait may be purchased framed or unframed, and a pamphlet is enclosed fully describing the portrait and method of ordering.

Today we need an emancipator and it is fitting to have before us the likeness of one of another day who faced trials of profound magnitude, and conquered in the name of God.

"That nation has not lived in vain which has given the world WASHINGTON and LINCOLN, the best great men and the greatest good men whom history can show."--Henry C. Lodge.

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I S L A M

From time to time, reports have been printed regarding Maulana Mohammed Abdul Alim Siddiqui who has been a true friend and counselor in the past. He is now in South Africa and has been unable to carry out his agreement to write an article on the religion of Islam. Rather than delay longer, Sheikh Daoud Ahmed Faisal, Spiritual Head of the Islamic Mission of America, has graciously furnished the article appearing on the following pages.

Those who have beheld the familiar Mosques and heard the call to prayer five times daily will never escape the deep impression which it makes.

After the final layout for this issue had been completed, we received an excellent article on, "The Religion of Islam" from The Washington Mosque Foundation. As one compliments the other, we have added four pages to this issue to accommodate both, and are deeply grateful for these interesting articles on Islam.

ATTRIBUTES OF ISLAM

By Sheikh Daoud Ahmed Faisal

Mohammedans are, in reality, Muslims, which means surrender to the Will of God, His Laws, His Commandments, His revealed Books and His Prophets.

The Universal Religion of Humanity, as related to "Allah" (God) the Originator and Sustainer of the heavens and the earth, is Obedience to Almighty God, to Islam, His Holy Commandments and Divine Love. "Islam" begins with Adam and is perfected in Mohammed. Forbidden foods are carrion, blood and swineflesh and that dedicated to any other than Allah.

The complete revelation of God is contained in the Holy Quran wherein is set forth the inherent sinlessness of man's nature which is capable of unlimited progress leading him to the border of Divinity. "Islam" provides the perfect code whereby humanity may work out what is good and noble in man. Charity and almsgiving have been made obligatory in Islam and any person possessing property above a certain limit pays a tax for the benefit of the unfortunate. Islam respects labor, which enables man to live honestly, while idleness is deemed a sin.

Men and women came from the same essence, and they have been equipped with equal capability for intellectual spiritual and moral attainments--thus, both are under like obligations, the one to the other.

Lineage, riches and family honors are held as accidental things, while virtue and good-will, service to humanity are matters of real merit. Distinction of color and nationality are unknown in the ranks of Islam. As all mankind is of one family, Islam has succeeded in welding the Black, the Brown, the Yellow, the Red and the White into one fraternal whole.

The Holy Quran ascribes the following as sacred duties: "Ye do good to parents; draw not nigh to lewd things, whether open or concealed; slay not the life which Allah hath made sacred; approach not the wealth of the orphan;

give full measure and full weight in justice; if ye give your word, do thereunto, even though it be against kinsman and fulfill the covenant of Allah."

The pursuit of knowledge is a duty imposed by the Almighty God, "Allah," upon every human being. The following are some of the sayings of the Holy Prophet Mohammed:

"He who leaves his home in search of knowledge walks in the path of God. Acquire knowledge. It enables its possessor to distinguish right from wrong. It lights the way to Heaven; it is our friend in the desert, our society in solitude, our companion when friendless. It guides us to happiness, it sustains us in misery, it is an ornament amongst friends and an armor against enemies. Learn to know thyself." The acquisition of knowledge is obligatory with every Muslim.

Righteousness in "Islam" consists in leading a life of complete harmony with Divine attributes. Sin is to act otherwise. Each person must bear his or her own burden and none can expiate another's sin. Whoso goes astray does so to his or her own loss. Faith without action is dead. Faith is of itself insufficient, unless translated into action. Whoso believes in the one God and the life beyond, does not injure his neighbors.

The Muslims accept all the Prophets of our Lord and their teachings equally. The Holy Quran says: We believe in God, and the Revelation given to us and to Abraham, Isma'il, Isaac, Jacob, the Tribes and that given to Moses and Jesus and that given to all the Prophets from their Lord. We make no difference between one and another of them, and we bow to "Allah" in Islam.

The Holy Quran inculcates freedom of thought and does not countenance any compulsion, physical or moral in matters religious. "Let there be no compulsion in religion. Truth stands out clear from error. Whosoever rejects evil and believes in God has grasped the most trustworthy hand-hold, which never breaks. And God hears and knows all things."

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THE RELIGION OF ISLAM

By Hassan Hosny of The Washington Mosque Foundation

The blessings of our present civilization are undeniably indebted to Islam whose propagation in almost every part of the world created a new era of greater knowledge and learning among men, and subduing the flames of hatred and animosity kindled in their hearts by fanaticism evoked by differences of religion or creed. To this happy state of more understanding, the great credit will go to Islam, it being the forerunner of true democracy and the torch bearer of brotherhood, equality, charity and tolerance at a time when Europe was enshrouded in ignorance, darkness and bigotry.

The word "Islam" literally means resignation (To God's Will), and it embodies the various sections of the Mohammedan Law which God has established for the guidance of His People, both for the worship of their Lord and for the duties of Life. These sections are five in number namely; beliefs, practical devotions, transactions, moralities and punishments. In the following lines, only a brief summary of the more important articles embodied in the two first sections can be mentioned due to the limited space.

The Creed of Moslems demands Faith in (1) God; (2) the Angels of God; (3) the Books of God; (4) the Apostles of God; (5) the Day of Judgment or Resurrection; and (6) Predestination.

Every Moslem believes in God's Oneness--that He is One and has no partner, that He is Omnipotent, all Powerful, Eternal, Everlasting and that He is ever qualified with the Attributes of Supreme Greatness. He is the Creator of and Restorer of the Heavens of the Earth and of Man.

As to the second Faith, Moslems believe in the existance of Angels, but not to worship them. They should worship God alone. The Angels are created of light and they are free from carnal desire. They obey God in what He commands them and they intercede for Man while they celebrate the Praise of God.

The third Faith of Moslems is belief in Books and Scriptures of God. Moslems are taught that God in diverse ages

of the world, gave revelations of His Will in Books to several Prophets. The last four of these Holy Scriptures are The Pentateuch, which was revealed to Moses, The Pslams to David, The Gospel to Jesus and The Quran which was revealed to Mohammed.

The Religion of Islam does not profess to be a new religion formulated by the Prophet Mohammed, but a continuation of the Religious Principals established by God through His revelations to Adam and to all His Prophets. It is essential for every Moslem, not only to believe in The Quran which was revealed to the Prophet Mohammed, but to also believe in God's previous books of revelation, from Adam to Jesus, insofar as the contents of any book of them are not contradicated by The Quran which is the last book.

The fourth Faith is the belief in all the Apostles of God. A Moslem believes that God sent, in diverse ages, messengers or apostles to reclaim mankind from infidelity, from idolatry and from superstition. Some of the Apostles mentioned in the Holy Quran are Adam, Noah, Heber, Jethro, Mathusaleh, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Aaron, Moses, David, Solomon, Job, Isaiah, Jonah, Elias, Elisha, Zacharia, John the Baptist, Jesus and Mohammed.

The fifth Faith is the belief in the day of Resurrection, or Judgment. The dead shall rise from their graves. Every individual shall render an account of his or her actions. The happiness or misery of individuals in the next world will depend on their deeds and the manner in which they observed the commands of God. Moslems believe in Paradise and Hell.

The sixth Faith of Islam is belief in predestination. Man's span of life is predestined. The doctrine of predestination does not imply denial of Man's freedom of will and actions. In fact, belief and faith in predestination can neither necessitate denial of human consciousness of freedom of will nor eliminate the factors of individual responsibility of human conduct. So long as man is conscious of personal freedom of will, choice and actions within himself, the sense of individual accountability which is the mainspring of moral life, always remains un-

touched.

As regards practical devotions in Islam, they are subdivided into five articles of practice: (a) Recital of the Creed; (b) Prayer to God; (c) Paying legal alms; (d) Fasting in the month of Ramadan; (e) Pilgramage to the Temple of Mecca once in a lifetime, if means allow.

This Creed, put in practice in the seventh century, was able to uplift the barefooted bedouin of Arabia towards the zenith of world civilization in the tenth century. This civilization of Islam has certainly brought light to the darkness of the middle ages and enabled our present-day civilization to emerge from medieval backwardness. Indeed the doctrines of Islam promote the welfare and prosperity of mankind, inasmuch as they cultivate charity and goodwill to all peoples, and stand for the principles of true democracy in its widest sense of equality, civil liberty, tolerance and brotherhood.

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GOD BLESS YOU

God bless you in the morning;
God bless you all the day;
God bless you in the evening,
And ease your cares a-way;
God bless you through the nighttime,
While stars their vigils keep;
God guard you safe till dawning,
And give you peaceful sleep.

God bless you through the conflict;
God bless you all the way;
God give you hope and courage
To meet each coming day,--
Look up, then; only trust Him
And heed his guiding voice;
'Twill bring you peace and comfort,
And make your heart rejoice!

--By Florence Ensworth Wilcox.

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RECENT COMMENTS FROM READERS

The following was received among the comments on "The Christmas Spirit" but the writer wished to remain anonymous, so it was not published. However, developments since then have so emphasized much of the truth stated that it is printed here in full:

> "You have launched the most gigantic project in the world. MAN has linked oceans; moved mountains; conquered the air; split the atom: - none of which will save his soul. Statesmen have harked on every known chord, to dull the human brain. Educationalists have corrupted the mind. Religionists have sounded an uncertain tone on pure born faiths. Great prophets have been imprisoned, burned, slain, crucified by man who owes his life to God. Greed, lust for power and loot, bigotry are rampant.
>
> "Salvation can only come through each heart and mind humbly seeking God, forgetting creedal ties, Praying His will to be done on earth as in heaven. Then only can His Spirit be enjoined to quench the fire of modern idolatry.
>
> "God spare you and fire you with zeal to carry on the noblest effort to save mankind."

Others have referred to the program as "Clossal" when considering the magnitude of the task. Reviewing the original plans, surely there is no limitation to scope.

The materialistic and scientific developments of the past century have done little to deepen spirituality. Rather the ingenuity which produces every gadget to ease living conditions and conquer space, thinks little or nothing of saving souls.

Or can anyone charge that "statesmen," "educationalists," and "religionists" have been maligned. Has anyone heard of an accepted leader in any of these professions who has had the temerity to stand up and say that spiritual progress has been made in the last fifty years?

And have not leaders, prophets, seers, and followers

been persecuted down through the ages?

Finally, is there any way out but through "seeking God?" And is there any other than solidly and unitedly standing against irreligion? Has any world faith shown sufficient solidarity and cohesion to do it alone? The most powerful and wealthy religion in the world is Christianity, and is there any semblance of unity and cohesion there?

Is the United Nations able to displace the function of religion in individual and world affairs?

The answers to these questions will determine whether the above statement is factual or false.

* * * *

"You issue a delightful little magazine excellent in format as well as in contents. The attractive colored front cover picture cannot be excelled. It is distinctive--I hope you never change it." (Colorado)

"Your little periodical has been a source of much joy and comfort to me, and to many others. To a very great friend of mine, to whom I asked you to send it, it has been a real revelation. I know, that it is not one special church, which will work salvation, but through the concerted loving action of all the churches of the world."

"I think the Christmas number is outstanding, but then, the test of all 'printed matter' is whether one can read it again and find it as good as when reading it the first time. I read them over often, . . and they not only pass the test, but I find often a deeper meaning in some of the articles every time I read them. To me, that is a sign of inspired writing." (Pennsylvania)

"Our copy of your December issue came a few days ago and we are highly delighted with it. To be able to collect and assemble, in a single issue, so many beautiful writings, is, indeed, a great accomplishment and representing so many different walks of life. Every article in the magazine is rich in TRUTH; inspiring and sustaining and altogether helpful. As great as this current issue

is, the one outstanding, greatest thing about it is the wonderful progress you have made in two short years."

--- (Ohio)

"Here on this little island (in the Gulf of Mexico) where I make my home in the winter, which has one tiny little church, I was amazed to see last Sunday a FELLOWSHIP IN PRAYER. The minister used it because his sermon was on hands. He placed it so every one could see it. He told the story of those hands, . . and likened them to Jesus' hands. I am sure if Fellowship in Prayer is finding its way here in this tiny island, it will eventually find its way in every nook and corner of the globe. . .

"We can think of a willow tree--how we can take a tiny twig, place it in the soil and watch it grow. So it will be with Fellowship in Prayer as the years go by. How quickly the willow spreads out tiny branches, then leaves, just so is the Fellowship spreading out its good work until its branches will be in every city and town in the country.

"I feel sure that there could be no other cause any better than to unite together many faiths making many churches of love, and doing away with hate. That is the answer to Fellowship in Prayer.

"I really can thank Fellowship in Prayer, it has broadened my views." (Maryland)

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S O L U T I O N

I heard a melting sound

Of iron curtains everywhere;

And the invisible torch that

made them flow, and disappear,

was Prayer.

--By A. E. Johnson.

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LIFE IS WORTH WHILE

By Grenville Kleiser

LIFE IS WORTH WHILE if you are growing daily in spiritual power and purpose.

LIFE IS WORTH WHILE if you are constantly unfolding in beauty and nobility of character.

LIFE IS WORTH WHILE if you are daily rendering useful service to others.

LIFE IS WORTH WHILE if you are meeting every responsibility, obligation, and circumstance with confidence and unwavering faith.

LIFE IS WORTH WHILE if you are progressing in TRUTH and RIGHTEOUSNESS.

LIFE IS WORTH WHILE if despite the sin, sickness, and sorrow of the world you still keep radiant and strong.

LIFE IS TRANSCENDENTLY WORTH WHILE if you are daily developing a deep consciousness of your personal alliance with G O D, your dependence upon Him, and the absolute assurance of His guidance and protection.

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F A I T H

When darkness steals away the light
And all's bewildering to sight,
Faith sees afar
And in the blackest night,
Beholds a Star.

--By Roy Wallace Thomas.

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DR. HENRY C. LINK

The death of Dr. Henry C. Link on January 9, 1952 removed from our midst one of the most outstanding figures in the field of psychological research. Born and reared in a devoutly religious atmosphere, his higher education left him "a complete and powerfully fortified agnostic," to use his own words. Further, "For twenty years thereafter, I scorned the petty practices of the church, and was convined that religion was the refuge of weak minds."

However, in counselling thousands of individuals, Dr. Link found himself "more and more frequently using some Biblical expressions or summing up certain recommendations in terms of an accepted religious doctrine." This tendency was forced upon him by the realization that his "professional and scientific vocabulary was not always adequate. It was neither sufficiently clear nor definite for the needs of many who came for advice." Dr. Link continued, "I found it a great help to be able to reduce a set of scientific facts to a few simple practical precepts. The frequency with which these precepts resembled the teachings of religion impressed me increasingly as time went on until, finally, I found that I had adopted a large body of religious beliefs most of which I had discarded twenty years ago." * * "My rediscovery of religion was inspired by the intimate study of individuals, and their problems reflected in the characteristic influences of American life."

"The Return to Religion," from which the above quotations are taken, was written in 1935 in the midst of a world depression. Since then other writings have appeared attesting the soundness of Dr. Link's thinking.

His forthright pronouncements are evidences of the courage of one who had found the truth and had been made free to lead a deeper, more useful life with his fellowmen.

Dr. Link has not died--the life he lived will live on, not alone in his writings but also in the hearts of countless thousands who have read and been inspired to "Return to Religion."

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A P P R E C I A T I O N

Aside from credit given elsewhere, we are indebted to the following who have contributed articles for this issue of FELLOWSHIP IN PRAYER--

Mr. Grenville Kleiser for GRATITUDE A HEALING POWER and LIFE IS WORTH WHILE; Dr. and Mrs. Edward H. Hume for the prayer written by their son, the late Theodore C. Hume; Mr. Calmer Newland for TODAY; Mrs. Florence Ensworth Wilcox for GOD BLESS YOU; Prof. A. E. Johnson for SOLUTION; and Rev. Roy Wallace Thomas for FAITH.

These people have recognized the far-reaching value of FELLOWSHIP IN PRAYER and we are grateful for their genuine spirit of cooperation which makes this publication outstandingly worth while.

We are also grateful to Mr. Grenville Kleiser for placing FELLOWSHIP IN PRAYER second on a list of "Helpful Magazines" to present as subscription gifts, appearing in a recent issue of the NEW YORK ENQUIRER.

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ITEMS OF INTEREST

The closing sessions of the United Nations Assembly bring forcibly to mind that it has demonstrated its effectiveness. Let us all pray for its further usefulness, with due regard for the constitutional rights of each participating nation.

As this issue is being set up, news comes of the death of King George VI. In sympathy with all who mourn, we copy the valedictory of John Masefield, British poet Laureate:

"O Wisdom, who, with power infinite,
Utterest death to every creature born,
Grant to us now the mercy of thy light,
With comfort to beloved Queens who mourn,

ITEMS OF INTEREST (Cont'd)

The call of Pope Pius for all Christians to unite in a spiritual crusade to save the world from ruin is a sign of growing sensitiveness to world needs. The response to this call must come from the human heart.

The enlargement of the Harvard Divinity School by the acquisition of $5,000,000 is to be highly commended. What is really needed is a deeper, more spiritual "comprehensive education in the common tenets of Christianity."

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NOTICES

A calendar of date of all faiths, prepared for this issue, has been set aside as space will not permit its use. However, it is fitting to note that the World Day of Prayer, sponsored by the United Church Women, is on February 29, 1952. Women the world around are called upon to observe a day of prayer for a better world for all people.

Brotherhood Week is also scheduled for February 17-24.

The subscription price of the bi-monthly publication, FELLOWSHIP IN PRAYER, is $2.00 annually. This barely covers the costs and does not allow for expansion of the program. Each subscriber is urged to talk with others, especially those of different faiths, and send in names of people whom it is thought might be interested.

ALL believers in God are invited to affiliate with Fellowship in Prayer--

FIRST: Increase efforts in your own chosen religion.

SECONDLY: A sacrificial interest in helping us to challenge ALL faiths to save mankind.

Let us start a SPIRITUAL RENAISSANCE at once!

WATCH FOR THE APRIL ISSUE FOR IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS!

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FELLOWSHIP ADVISORS

Hereafter the final page of FELLOWSHIP IN PRAYER will list the Fellowship Advisors, and Trustees and Officers of the Corporation. With due discernment for the objectives of the program, both groups will be enlarged from time to time.

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S P I R I T O F G O D

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
Wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;
Stoop to my weakness, mighty as Thou art,
And make me love Thee as I ought to love.

I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,
No sudden rending of the veil of clay,
No angel visitant, no opening skies;
But take the dimness of my soul away.

Teach me to feel that Thou art always nigh;
Teach me the struggles of the soul to bear,
To check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh;
Teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.

Teach me to love Thee as Thine angels love,--
One holy passion filling all my frame;
The kindling of the heaven-descended Dove;
My heart an altar, and Thy love the flame.

--George Croly.

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